

St Anthony of Padua

Presbytery: Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX
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Priest: Fr. Peter Draper. (Tel: 725193)
Deacon (retired): Rev. Tom Butler

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 9.30am.
Weekday Mass: Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.15am. (Thurs 9.15am at Holy Family)
Confessions: 5.30—5.50pm

Annexe: 725544 Social Centre: 735963 Primary school: 726621
Playgroup/Preschool 07963 700591

Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331

Responding to God's Message

The word Pharisee means separated. The observance of the Pharisees was so strict and rigorous that they separated themselves from the rest of the people. From this comes the expression "pharisaic mentality". It is typical of people who think they can attain justice through the rigid and rigorous observance of the law. Generally, they are people who are afraid, who do not have the courage to assume the risk of liberty and of responsibility. They hide themselves behind the law and authority. When these people obtain an important function, they become harsh and insensitive and indifferent in order to hide their own imperfection.[1]

If we are to appreciate the conflict that is evident in today's gospel passage, we must understand that Jesus was basing his teachings on the same laws and traditions available to the Pharisees. The differences between their teachings are often highlighted and amplified by Matthew whose church is thought to have included many Jewish Christians who may not have believed that a break with the synagogue was necessary to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus tells the crowd that it is correct to do and observe what the scribes and Pharisees teach; it is their example that is to be avoided, namely, their love of being honoured and exalted. [2]

In today's second reading, St Paul speaks about how the Thessalonians accepted God's message. Their response epitomises the essence of today's gospel: "As soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it."

This response requires humility, a word which has its roots in the Greek word humus. Humility helps us remain grounded in the best sense of the word, enabling us to recognise our dependence on the One who fashioned us. It deepens our awareness of our kinship with those who share this earth, preventing us from seeing ourselves as more deserving or graced or better than another. In practising humility, we leave room for the surprising and graced ways that God works—beyond expectation, beyond privilege, beyond status.' [3]

[1] ocard.org [2] Loyola press [3] Jan Richardson

31st Sunday of the Year
5th November 2023

Year A
Missal: p799

DIARY AND MASS INTENTIONS

for the week beginning Saturday 4th November 2023

Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joe Morrison	
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Special Intention (TB) For family healing	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sick & Retired Priests' Fund Collection</i>
Mon 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Special Intention	
Tue 9.15am 10.30am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>St. Ant</i>	Frank Kelly <i>Funeral Service: Frank Kelly</i>	
Wed 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joseph Holmes	
Thur 9.15am	<i>H.Family</i>	Denis Long	<i>Feast: Dedication of Lateran Basilica</i>
Fri 9.15am	<i>St. Ant</i>	Joe Traynor	<i>Feast: St. Leo the Great</i>
Sat 6.00pm	<i>St. Ant</i>	Tom & Marie Gardner	<i>Feast: St. Martin of Tours</i>
Sun 9.30am 11.00am	<i>St. Ant</i> <i>H.Family</i>	Patricia & Robbie Hasson For our parish	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>

Last Weekend: Attendance: 239 (109 + 130). Offertory: £498.65
Sick & Retired Priests: £160.50 Thank you for your generosity.

Masses received this week: Tom & Marie Gardner, Maureen Skeldon, Denis Long, Patricia & Robbie Hasson.

Tea, Coffee, cake etc. is served in the Padua Room after both weekend Masses.

Catholic Voice Newspaper

Copies of the November issue are at the back of church – please take one.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who are sick, especially Jo Counsell, Bill Embery, Marie Morris, Carole & Gary Adnitt, Maureen Cafferkey, Les Farrer, baby Mairead, Angela Russell, Jack Morton;
We pray for those who have died recently: Fr. Joe O'Connor, Winston Daley, St. Isabel Dennis Taylor, Frank Kelly;

and those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Tony Swarbrick, Jim Sheldon, Mary Jones, Patricia & Robbie Hasson, Harold Mark Bradley, Norman Green, Mark Dey. John Twine, Margaret Turner, Lucy Swarbrick, Keith Yates, Monica Jackson, Alison Taylor, Helen Proctor, Mary Hough, Frances Farrer, Michael Myerscough, Patricia Gorrell, Francis Hartley, Rosaleen Holmes, Mary Cottam, Paul Drake, Catherine Bond, Margaret Keane, Cyril Higginson, Bryan Healey, Leo Flannigan, Lilian Butler, Andrew Roe. Joseph Holmes, Michael Bell, Joe Traynor. May they rest in peace.

Poppies!

The Knit & Natter ladies have worked really hard making banners and a poppy display for Remembrance Day. They are a striking display in church this week!
Knit & Natter are selling handmade poppies after each Mass this weekend. The cost is a minimum donation of £1.00. All monies to go to the British Legion. Next weekend Remembrance Weekend they are hosting the refreshments in the Padua room after each Mass and having a sale of work. Monies raised will go to the parish charities.

Parish Charities 2024

We have a number of charity fund-raisers during the year and the proceeds go to our two nominated charities. The current charities are Water Aid and The Hygiene Bank. You are invited make your nominations for the Parish Charities 2024 - one at home, one overseas. Forms and ballot box at back of church. The 3 most popular suggestions in each category will be put to the parish vote during December.

Lancaster Diocesan Missio Mass

– Bishop Paul will be celebrating a mass at Sacred Heart Church in Ashton on Saturday 18th November at 11.15am followed by a buffet lunch and presentations by Bishop Paul and a missionary priest. All Red Box holders and Missio supporters in our parish are invited and to assist with planning, please RSVP by 6 November either by email – redbox@missio.org.uk – or tel. 07593 544625

"Testament: The Parables Retold"

On Wednesday 15th November in the Padua Room 7.00 to 9.30pm (PG13). The film is set in the modern world, where the resurrection only happened 20 years ago. It follows Luke as he hears some well loved parables told by followers of Jesus.

The Fairtrade stall - will be open at the back of church this weekend.

Table Top Sales (for Rwanda)

The next one is on Saturday, 11th November, 11am until 2pm in the Annexe. Lots of bargains will be on offer along with many Christmas ideas...Shop early!!! Or simply come along and have a brew and a chat with old friends. See Bernadette.

Rwanda Group Trust. We are grateful to Bishop Paul for attending our quarterly meeting and becoming our Patron.

CAFOD World Gifts catalogues now available at back of church.

Pre-Advent Weekend Retreat

At the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst, 24th – 26th November, "Why God Became Man" reflecting on the mystery of the Incarnation and exploring the beauty and implications. Mass, prayer and reflection. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/why-god-became-man-weekend-retreat/>

Christmas toys

Once again the Salvation Army are collecting Christmas toys. There will be a collection box at the back of church from next weekend (12 November) until the end of November. Toys should be new, unwrapped, and for children from birth to early teens. Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Carols Service

Sunday 10th December, 2pm. Followed by free refreshments, Raffle & Sing-a-long.